

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ADDIS 11559 271459Z

53

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 270810Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6464

INFO AMCONUUL ASMARA

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 11559

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PFOR ET US

SUBJECT: KAGNEW FOUR: ROLE OF ICRC

REF: ADDIS 11346

DURING CALL ON ACTING FONMIN GETACHEW KIBRET SEPT 26 ON ANOTHER ASPECT OF KAGNEW FOUR SITUATION, GETACHEW RAISED WITH ME MATTER OF OUR APPROACH TO IVRC, SAYING IT WAS VIEW OF EPMG THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN WISER IF FAMILIES HAD CONTACTED ICRC DIRECTLY FOR ASSISTANCYJ RATHER THAN USG. ASKED WHY, GETACHEW SAID EPMG THOUGHT IT BETTER TO EMPHASIZE FAMILY INTEREST AND THAT ROLE OF USG OUGHT TO BE KEPT IN BACKGROUND.

2. I SAID I WASN'T SURE WHETHER FAMILY INTEREST HAD BEEN STRESSED TO ICRC AT TIME OF INITIAL APPROACH, BUT WOULD INQUIRE. IN ANY CASE FAMILIES WERE NOT IN GENEVA, SO THAT ANY REQUEST COMING FROM THEM WOULD NATURALLY HAVE BEEN RELAYED THROUGH USG CHANNELS. GETACHEW THEN WONDERED WHETHER IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TBUMAKE A "CLAIRFICATION" (PRESUMABLY TO ICRC) THAT OUR APPROACH WAS MADE AT BEHEST OF FAMILIES

-. ACTION REQUESTED: I WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INDICATION KROM GENEVA THAT APPROACH TO ICRC INCLUDED RSREFERENCE TO FAMILIES CONCERN. WE AWARE OF COURSE THAT ICRC HAS AGREED TO TRY AND DELIVER INDIVIDUAL FAMILY MESSAGES (GENEVA 7231) AND WE WISH TO BUILD THIS INTO
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OUR EVENTUAL REPLY TO GETACHEW.

HUMMEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Draft Date: 27 SEP 1975
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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